Church Life

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Seventy Years of History.---1833-1903.

The First Baptist Church of Chicago.

By Edward Goodman.

Chapter VI. 1882-1902.---Dr- Henson's Pastorate.

[The publication of the "Seventy Years of History" has been delayed for some months by the illness of the writer. He is grateful to God that returning health enables him to continue the narrative.]

Chapter V. of the history closed with the pastorate of Dr. Lorimer, and gave an account of his death. It will be remembered that Dr. Lorimer's pastorate closed September 25, 1881, and on the Sunday evening of that date he preached his last sermon as pastor. A large audience greeted him and the service was of very great interest. His text was from Gen. xxi. 49: "Therefore was the name of it called Mizpeh, for he said, the Lord watch between me and thee when we are absent one from another." Dr. Lorimer expressed "sorrow in leaving the church which had treated him so kindly during the two years and five months he had been the pastor. The blessing of God had been with them. Providence had opened the way for the Immanuel Church, and the separation which was now necessary was a pleasant one. There were no misunderstandings. He hoped that the relations of the two churches would be kind and considerate." He then stated that he had become responsible for $10,000 for the new church. A generous response was made to the amount of $1,500 and with mutual good feeling and congratulations the assembly dispersed.

Dr. Lorimer at once commenced his heroic efforts in connection with the Immanuel Baptist Church. Some 250 members of the First Church joined him in this self-sacrificing endeavor. Such a radical change—the loss of the popular pastor, the exodus of so many valued members and the loss of one third of the income, naturally caused some discouragement until Dr. Henson after repeated calls, announced his acceptance of the pastorate, to commence March 1, 1882, leaving his loved Memorial Church in Philadelphia.

Dr. Henson had already acquired a national reputation and on leaving Philadelphia it was said of him:

"Dr. Henson is fresh, buoyant, popular, and looks as young as when he left Virginia twenty years ago. Say what they choose about him, they cannot deny that he is the brightest star of the Philadelphia pulpit."

One of the Philadelphia papers said in connection with a report of Dr. Henson's closing sermon at the Memorial Church:

"Few men have ever made upon religious circles in Philadelphia such an impression as has been made by Dr. Henson. He is not only a powerful pulpit orator but a man of power. His words were of great weight in the councils of his denomination. His is a breezy, genial and sunny Christianity. His clear-sightedness, common sense, dry humor and kindly feeling are all apparent to the dullest. The entire community will sustain and feel his loss, not less, if not more than the particular congregation to which for fourteen years, he has so faithfully and usefully ministered."

Previous to the coming of Dr. Henson the church was without a pastor for some six months, and from September, 1881 to

February, 1882, the pulpit was supplied by Dr. Galusha Anderson and others. For three weeks including preaching on three Sundays and special meetings week-days, closing February 19th, Dr. H. G. DeWitt, the evangelist, was the means of much spiritual blessing to the church. A goodly number were converted and there were many inquirers.

There was great joy when Dr. Henson appeared for the first time as pastor, at the covenant meeting, March 3, 1882, and gave his first sermon on the following Sunday, leaving the best of impressions.

The covenant meeting referred to was one of extraordinary interest. Dr. Henson spoke at length. He opened his address with the thought that if "he was to be the pastor he must learn to love the members, and they must learn to love him—that would not be possible without a knowledge of each other"—and so he said: "I will speak of how I was brought to Christ, how I was called to the ministry, and how I was called to Chicago." The effect of this artless narration was most happy upon the whole assembled church. All felt at once drawn to the pastor, with warm affection.

The following Sunday, March 5th, was also a day long to be remembered. The pastor was at the side of the superintendent in the Sunday School, and in his own free and happy way, endeared himself to scholars and teachers. The morning service including the celebration of the Lord's Supper, was in all its features what might be most highly desired, as inaugurating the new pastoral relation.

Dr. Henson in his opening remarks disclaimed any intention of preaching an inaugural discourse, but assured his hearers that the text upon which he would base his remarks might be taken as in a true sense expressing the spirit which should animate both pastor and people in the mutual labors of the future. The familiar passage, "For the love of Christ constraineth us," was announced. Christ's love as laying hold of the disciple, as drawing the church together, and as impelling all to worthy exertion were the points dwelt upon. There was a large attendance at the service and the sermon was listened to with profound interest from first to last. The evening audience was also large and of great interest and three candidates were baptized by the new pastor. Thus was inaugurated a pastorate the results of which, there is reason to rejoice over, and render praise and thanksgiving to our God.

On the following Monday morning Dr. Henson was heartily received by the Chicago Baptist Pastor's Conference. After the introduction by the president of the conference his rising was the signal for a most cordial and fraternal greeting. In response Dr. Henson spoke briefly and feelingly, with a quiet eloquence and with moving humor, which put him at once en **raport** with his brethren. Drs. Lorimer Northrup, Lawrence and others spoke highly of him, and regarded his coming as the best possible re-inforcement the Baptist pulpit of Chicago could receive.

Dr. Henson after spending his first Sunday and Monday in Chicago, and receiving such assurances of welcome, returned at once, to Philadelphia for his family, to meet however a severe affliction in the sudden death of his aged mother, who fell asleep three hours before he arrived. In a personal letter received from him later March 10, 1882, Dr. Henson thus refers to the severe trial he was called to pass through:

"It will never cease to be a source of keenest regret that I did not have the privilege of being with my mother in the closing hours of her life. She was full of serenest faith and fell asleep without a struggle or a groan. She did not need her son, seeing that she had her Saviour with her. Still it would have been to me a source of inexpressible satisfaction to have been at her bed-side to receive her dying benediction. Today we lay away her body beside her grand-children at Laurel Hill, and the Lord has given us a blue sky and a balmy day, for which I am thankful."

Dr. Henson and family without delay came to Chicago. It was a severe trial for them to break away from all their loved associations in Philadelphia, but with the conviction that the Lord was leading they came, and all things worked together for good.

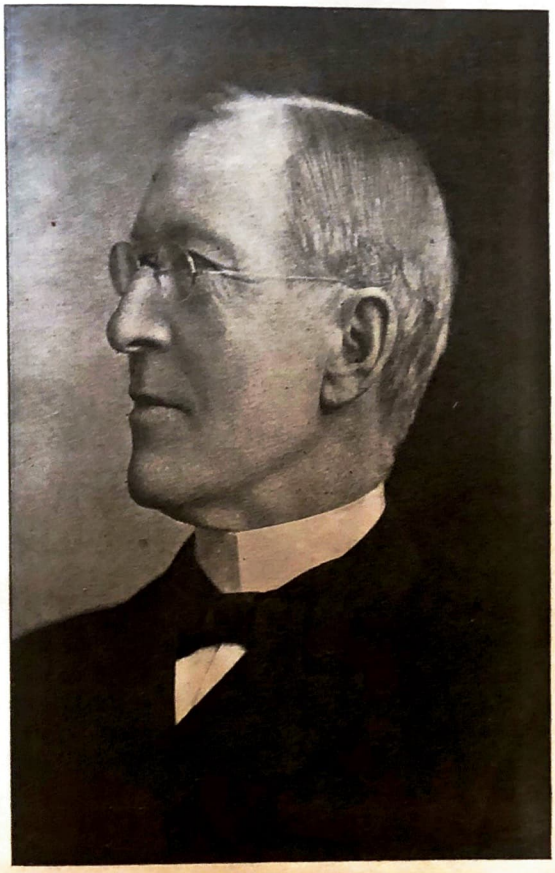
Soon after Dr. Henson's settlement in Chicago, he received an enthusiastic welcome by the Chicago Baptist Social Union. This occurred April 10, 1882, at the Palmer House, when the attendance of members and guests was the largest in the history of the Social Union, up to that date, three hundred and thirty-six ladies and gentlemen being seated at the banquet tables.

After the general welcome on behalf of

the Social Union by the president. Dr. Lorimer was invited to give more extended words of welcome. This he did in an address full of love and cheer. Dr. Henson responded in his own inimitable way, causing great and prolonged applause, as he closed his speech with these words:

"I begin to feel myself at home among you. I came with much of fear and trembling. Though every fibre of my heart was bleeding when I came I have found myself so full of work, and compassed about by so many whole souled and warmly sympathetic friends, that I have scarcely had time to be homesick. I have come to give myself to you in the service of the Lord, with all the power that is in me, and in order to show you that I am thoroughly naturalized and already one of you, I shall straightway get me a trumpet like every other Chicagoan and begin to blow."

It should be remembered that on the commencement of Dr. Henson's pastorate, March 1, 1882, the membership had been reduced to 700 names. The income for current expenses, by the exodus of 250 members with Dr. Lorimer, had been reduced more than one-third; there was a mortgage debt of $18,000, and no organ. Gradually and surely, under the lead of the new pastor and with God's gracious favor, difficulties were overcome. During the first year a magnificent organ was inaugurated, and used for the first time in November, by Professor Havens, adding greatly to the interest of the services. The church had been without the large organ for eight years, since the burning of the church edifice on Wabash Ave. in 1874. The close of the first year's pastorate indicated a healthy and most encouraging condition of affairs. One hundred and sixty-seven new members had been received, fifty-six of the number by baptism, including three sons of the pastor, Charles, Hudson and Horace. There had been great gain financially. The



Dr. P. S. Henson.

pew rents had been increased about forty per cent, the arrearages on current expenses at the opening of the year had been cancelled, the organ costing $7,500, had been paid for, and all current expenses provided for to January 1, 1883, the only indebtedness being the $18,000 mortgage.

The pastor's first annual sermon March 5, 1883 was from the text, "Now I praise you brethren that ye remember me in all things." At the close of the sermon he made reference to the happy year he had spent with the church, and rejoiced in the mutual good feeling between pastor and people.

The Jubilee Celebration.

The second year of Dr. Henson's pastorate was marked as the Jubilee year of the Church—(1833-1883). This half century celebration of the organization of the church, took place October 17-21. As preliminary to the celebration, on the two previous Sundays successful efforts were made to provide for all debts of the church, that they might not interfere with the festivities of the interesting occasion. These Jubilee offerings amounted to some $23,000 to cancel the debt of $18,000 and other outlays.

The Jubilee celebration consisted of a historical service; an inter-denominational service; an ex-pastoral service; services on Sunday, the whole closing with a grand general denominational meeting at Central Music Hall, October 22.

The celebration began with the "Historical Service" on Wednesday evening, October 17th. The pulpit platform and choir loft had been beautifully decorated for the occasion, by a profusion of flowers and plants, tastefully arranged and displayed and whose fragrance filled all the house. Over the heads of the speakers, on the front of the gallery blossomed out in brilliant colors, the word, "Ebenezer," I Samuel vii. 12, flanked on either side with 1833-1883. On the platform, besides the pastor Dr. Henson were Dr. Everts, Hon. John Wentworth, Leander Stone, Cyrus Bentley, and the venerable Rev. Lewis Raymond. Dr. Henson said, "We rejoice to meet the old friends, who come to join in this commemorative service. In God's name we bid you welcome." Dr. Henson introduced Mr. Leander Stone, the efficient clerk of the church who read the "Historical Review," covering a short history from October 19, 1833. Mr. Stone in choice language sketched the principal events of the fifty years and the ten pastors who had so successfully served the church—from Rev. Allen B. Freeman the first to Dr. P. S. Henson the tenth.

The Hon. John Wentworth ex-mayor who came to Chicago, October 25, 1836, gave in his peculiar and piquant style a very interesting account of the "Early Baptists of Chicago." The next Sunday after his arrival, under direction of his landlady, Mrs. Murphy, he attended the First Baptist Church, on South Water street, and heard the pastor, Rev. Isaac T. Hinton, preach. He said, "I was so well pleased with the sermon, which was from the text, 'One Lord, one faith and one baptism,' that I attended again in the afternoon; and I was still so well pleased that I attended again in the evening." Mr. Wentworth made interesting references to Rev. Allen B. Freeman, Dr. Temple, Rev. I. T. Hinton and others. Mr. Wentworth said: "I saw many persons immersed in the Chicago River by Mr. Hinton, among them the widow of my esteemed friend and Chicago's honored citizen Thomas Hoyne. One cold day I saw seventeen immersed. I remember the ice had to be raked away in the river. Of the number immersed Chicago's time honored architect, John M. Van Osdel, alone survives. . . . .

"I sum up my remarks by stating that in the development of the great west the Baptists can make the following claims:

The first Protestant Church member in Chicago was Baptist.

The first Protestant sermon preached in the English language was by a Baptist.

The first book ever written by a Chicago man was by a Baptist.

The first continuous Protestant Sabbath School originated with the Baptists.

The Baptists had the first president of the Bible Society in Chicago and also had the president of the first Temperance Society. And, in taking their departure upon the next half century, it is but right that the rising generation should know what good works their fathers originated and carried on under so many adverse circumstances, as a stimulus to greater exertions commensurate with the superior advantages of the present day."

At the conclusion of Mr. Wentworth's address Dr. Henson said, "We are much indebted to our honorable friend for the tribute which he has paid to the Baptists. We appreciate it as coming from one familiar with those who laid our founda-

tions in Chicago—the pioneers of this church."

Cyrus Bentley, Esq., formerly for many years the clerk of the church, but at that time a member of the Immanuel Church, was introduced. He proceeded to give in his own beautiful style, a very pleasant review of the work of the pastors of the church, and the principle events which marked the administration of each, together with some of the more striking incidents connected with the history of the church itself. Mr. Bentley came to Chicago in 1846 and was acquainted with all but the first two pastors—Freeman and Hinton.

Mr. Bentley closed his address by referring to some of the faithful men and women who had passed away. "Our fathers where are they? Where are the deacons Hays, Edwards, Walker, Buchanan, Boone and Hoard? Where are James H. Woodworth, Francis P. Van Wyck, A. D. Tittsworth and others? Where are the women, Mrs. Phillips, Mrs. Walker, Mrs. Wilson, Mrs. Loomis, Mrs. Woodworth and Mrs. Margaret Evarts? These were truly the pillars of the church."

The "Inter-Denominational Service" presided over by Dr. Henson was addressed by Dr. Barrows, Presbyterian; Dr. Scudder, Congregationalist; Dr. Hatian; Dr. Lawrence, Baptist. A poem was read by Prof W. C. Richards. The chairman gave pleasant introductory words commencing with the remarks, "A beautiful thing it is for brethren to dwell together in unity." The occasion was most enjoyable, the church and pastor receiving hearty congratulations from the invited guests.

The "Ex-Pastoral Service" was of unusual interest. On the platform with Dr. Henson were Rev. E. H. Hamlin the fourth pastor of the church: Dr. J. C. Burroughs, the seventh pastor; Dr. W. W. Evarts, the ninth pastor, and Dr. G. C. Lorimer the tenth pastor. Dr. Henson said:

"On the nineteenth of October 1833 this church was organized. This is the nineteenth of October 1883, and therefore tonight completes exactly fifty years of this church's history. During this time the church has had eleven pastors—six of whom have fallen asleep, and five remain unto this day, and are on the platform at this present hour.

"We shall begin with a memorial of the first pastor and founder of this church, Rev. Allen B. Freeman of blessed memory. Very fittingly on the occasion of this jubilee celebration there has been unveiled a tablet in the North Vestibule of the church erected this week, and a fitting tribute will be paid to his memory by our beloved brother Dr. William M. Haigh, who represents the American Baptist Home Mission Society which sent Mr. Freeman to this field. The following is the inscription:"

In Memory
of
Allen B. Freeman,
Born 1806.
Founded this Church
October 19, 1833,
Chosen First Pastor
Jan. 12, 1834.
Died December 15, 1834.
"I die at my post and in my Master's work."

Dr. Haigh then read a memorial sketch of Mr. Freeman, comprehensive and expressed in choice language.

Rev. E. H. Hamlin, who was pastor from 1843 to 1845 in an interesting address gave facts and reminiscences of those early days to the great pleasure of his audience.

Dr. J. C. Burroughs pastor from 1852 to 1856, an eventful epoch, was the next speaker, and who was the first president of the "Old University of Chicago." His references to the members of the church who had passed away, were very gratifying to the old members present who could follow him in his reminiscences of the devoted men and women of the first twenty-five years of its history.

Dr. W. W. Everts, the ninth pastor from 1859 to 1879 spoke of the value of permanent pastorates. He himself was licensed to preach in 1833 so that his ministry was as old as the First Church.

Dr. George C. Lorimer, the tenth pastor from 1879 to 1881 was the last speaker of the evening and although it was after ten o'clock he held the audience firmly until half-past ten. The Michigan Avenue Church, had lovingly given up its Friday evening meeting to join Dr. Lorimer in congratulations on the happy termination of half a century of history of the First Church.

The Sunday Services, October 21, were of unusual interest. Dr. Henson led a reunion prayer meeting at 10 a. m. Words were spoken by Mrs. Mitchell of Racine, who was baptized by Mr. Hinton in Lake

Michigan, and others who recalled the old-times when they united with the church and with thankful hearts recorded their testimony of the goodness of God to them. A marked feature of the Sunday services was the singing by the large choir, including solos by Miss Medora Henson and Mrs. C Buckbee.

At the usual morning services Dr. W. W. Everts delivered a masterly memorial discourse on "The Leadership of Faith," from Hebrews xi. 32-34. The "Leadership of Faith," said Dr. Everts, "may furnish lessons appropriate to this semi-centennial celebration in "Social Progress;" "Adventure and Pluck of Pioneers;" "Western Churches;" "Religious Progress;" "Religious Progress in Chicago;" "History of the First Church:" "Public Spirit of the Church," and "Superiority of the Christian Civilization." Dr. Everts closed his discourse in eloquent words on "Salvation by Faith."

Dr. Henson followed Dr. Everts in a remarkable address on "The Inspiration of Hope," closing with these sentences: "Then let our hearts take courage today, as we face the future, all to us unknown. For fifty years this church has lived because it enshrined the truth of God, and in that truth is the power of an endless life. And in the stretch of years to come, as we address ourselves to our glorious work, and here in this high place gird ourselves for our forward march, let us be sure of this, that all the powers of earth and hell shall never be able to prevail against us."

"Stand then in His great might,
With all His strength endures;
And take to arm you for the fight
The panoply of God."

The Sunday School Jubilee was held at 3 p. m. Mr. James Peabody the superintendent presided. Addresses were made by Cyrus Bentley, B. F. Jacobs and Dr. Henson. Special recognition was made of the long and faithful services of John H. Tomlinson and Daniel W. Baker, by badges of honor being presented to them by the pastor, they having been twenty-six years in the services of the school. The "Order of Exercises" was well aranged. Cyrus Bentley's address was on "What God Hath Done;" B. F. Jacobs on "What God is Doing;" Dr. Henson on "What God Will Do."

The Praise Meeting on Sunday evening was the most crowded of the day. On the platform with Dr. Henson were Rev. Lewis Raymond, Rev. E. H. Hamlin, Dr. Galusha Anderson, Prof. F. O. Marsh, Dr. F. B. Ives, and B. F. Jacobs. Mr. Hamlin led in prayer. Mr. Raymond in his reminiscences said he came to Milwaukee June 1, 1844, and on June 16, came down to Chicago, and preached for Mr. Hamlin in the old carpenter shop. Dr. Anderson being introduced spoke effectively on "The Church an Educational Force." Prof. Marsh whom the chairman introduced as one prominent among the faithful educators of the country, was the chairman of the committee on the Dearborn Street Mission. He encouraged a general co-operation and support for this interest, as it was now the child of the church. Dr. Ives said this was his jubilee year, he having come to the state fifty years ago. He exhorted all to cultivate patience in connection with all their work. B. F. Jacobs spoke of the numerous things for which we ought to praise God, for what God is himself— loving, gracious holy and just; for Jesus Christ and the gift of the Holy Spirit. We should praise God for the pioneers, from Roger Williams to Allen B. Freeman; for the pastors of our churches; for our missionaries, from Carey and Judson to Miss Moore in New Orleans, and many other things, which we fail to record. His speech was intensely interesting and touching.

After closing remarks by Dr. Henson, who had presided at all the meetings with great tact and skill, enlivening the exercises with his pithy words, the Jubilee services of the Church came to a close.

[The account of the "Denominational Meeting" held in Central Music Hall, will appear in the November number of Church Life, continuing the history of Dr. Henson's pastorate.]

Under Italian Skies

By Mrs. R. B. Donnelley

[illegible] Italian [illegible] of the past. [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

St. Paul's Cathedral at Rome.

put in human form "God the Father" as so many of the old painters have done, nor can I become accustomed to it. The picture is always that of a most benign and yet manly face, with a flowing beard and a sort of sheltering accompaniment of cloud, never conveying to any beholder a sense of fear but rather awakening a feeling of trustfulness.

Raphael's, Slange and Soggia, the numerous galleries of paintings by other artists, the museums of sculptures, antiquities of tapestries, to say nothing of the extensive gardens, all combine to make this the most attractive prison the world has ever known.

Of the other larger churches, Santa Maria Maggiore with the old Byzantine mosaics, rich decorations and numerous chapels, St. John Laterene, where the late Pope was recently laid to rest, with its wonderful baptistry and extensive museum, and St. Paul's—without-the-walls are the most interesting. The last named is built so it is claimed upon the spot where Paul was executed and his remains preserved by a good woman, now lie in a crypt beneath the altar. Of all the churches this to me is the most beautiful, with exquisite marble columns, mosaic floor, and bright windows. Here as elsewhere the vast expanse is unbroken by pew or chair, nor did I on the occasions when I visited it ever see a worshipper.

Cab drivers and guides point out the prison where Paul was confined but I was more interested in the district where he is said to have lived when in his "own hired house." One has to take all this tradition with more than a grain of salt being only certain that the Apostle was there which is not so true of Peter.

Time would fail to tell of the hours spent at the "Forum" where excavations and discoveries are still being made on the Palatine Hill at the ruins of the baths of Caracalla, or in the Catacombs of St. Calixtus, the burial place of the early Christians, where we expected to be awed

by the sight of bones and skeletons but saw nothing so grewsome or loathsome save the Trappist monk who was our guide.

Ere I close perhaps you would be interested in knowing something of what the Protestant churches are doing in this stronghold of Catholicism. The English and American Baptists both are at work in Rome. That of the American Mission is under the control and is supported by the Southern Baptist Board. The Rev. George B. Taylor was the pastor of the little church for thirty years but has recently resigned on account of failing health and the infirmities of age. Mr. Gill, with his wife and family had but recently arrived from Virginia, when I was there, and were hard at work trying to master the language. I wish they might be more generally supported and given a new building in a more desirable street. I enquired about the work done years ago by Mr. Van Meter and was told that when his personality was gone the flock was scattered. The English Baptists support a church and two or three mission stations. The chapel where I attended service was bright, clean and attractively situated on a pretty piazza or square, opposite a church made famous by Browning in his "Ring and the Book."

The American Methodists are doing the most aggressive work that is being done in Rome. They have a fine property near the business center with a good building. They have girls' schools, one with three hundred and fifty pupils, a boys' school and a Day Nursery. All the workers tell of the difficulty with which their work is prosecuted. They do not present an entirely new religion—then "why is not the old just as good" is the question. Added to this is the severe persecution of any who leave the church. The spirit is the same as it has ever been and had it the old time power religious liberty would no longer be possible.

The Waldensians have good church buildings and larger memberships than any other denomination in all parts of Italy.

In Florence and in Venice I found Italian Baptist Churches, but the pastors could not speak English nor I Italian, so neither of us were much better for the visit. In Florence they have a good property in a good location but the room was very unattractive. In Venice I was ashamed that American Baptists did not provide better for those of their own household. A small, dark, miserable little room in an out of the way corner. The pastor an Italian, is a good, sincere, earnest man, who has a son laboring for the salvation of his fellow countrymen in America.

While I am thankful for the privilege of seeing so much of the old world, I am daily more devoutly grateful that my home is in Christian America. Happy is that land whose God is the Lord. May such be our case that we may grow in that righteousness that becometh a nation.

.. Hotel Konig's-Villa,
Carlsbad, Aug. 29th, 1905.

FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE MISSION COMMITTEE.

My Dear Mr. Embree.

It pleases me to hear that the Chapel is an accomplished fact—that after all the years of waiting there is now a center of operation more attractive and commodious than we have ever had during the existence of the Mission. We have not lived up to our opportunities heretofore but with the new building, I hope there will be greater determination to do well the work put into our hands. With you, I wish the Chapel might be fully completed and equipped but we must not despise the "half loaf" because the whole one cannot be obtained. A faithful use of the means at hand will bring a blessing and in His own good time the Lord will supply the greater need. I do not doubt.

BUILDING FUND.

Men's League	$2,500	$1,972.25
Woman's Benevo. So...	1,200	1,280.25
C. E. Society	1,000	794.12
Amoret Henson Guild ..	100	100.00
Lorimer Class	100	37.90
Individual Subs		1,947.50
Sunday School		357.26
Fisher Mission Band ..		125.00
From Raymond Field.		
Individuals		462.80
C. E. Society		59.05
Sunday School		39.20
		7,104.33
From equity in old property		1,560.00
		8,664.33
Paid for lot		2,200.00
		6,464.33

In The Land Of The Rising Sun

By Mrs. J. F. Gillette.

I have been asked to give some of our experiences in Japan, and am sure it will be a pleasure to live it over again, as I shall never cease to be grateful for the privilege of going.

We started on August first on the Empress of India from Vancouver. The day was beautiful and at its close we went on board and sailed out by the light of a full moon, the Chinese crew sending off fire crackers, to propitate the god of the ocean. The steamers are not as large as on the Atlantic, and look more like large yachts. The white ship seemed to glide over the water. It was too beautiful to retire, but

Playing Samisen, Fu ye, Taiko and Tsuzumi.

before morning what a change! Oh the lonely hoarse blasts of the fog horn, and the sea rolling high! For three days we kept below, every little while the fog horn reminding us we were in peril on the sea.

On Sunday there was a calm and all were on deck. We were beautifully cared for by the steward, a Chinaman, and to my remark, "It is rough this morning John," he would say, "Smooth weather tomorrow, or better tomorrow, shall I bring you your toast and hot water?" The waiters and crew are all Chinamen. They wear long, dark blue blouses in the morning, and for dinner white which gives them a very neat appearance. On the back of their heads they wear black satin skull caps, with either red or black balls on top. The red ones are those whose fathers and mothers are living, those with the black, whose fathers and mothers "Makie die," as they say.

On Sunday afternoon we gathered in the cabin to hear the experiences of the wife of a missionary who had been twenty-five years in Japan. Also Mr. and Mrs. Winn of Osaka returning to their work where they had served twenty-one years, and a Mr. Coolley sent out by the English Baptists to China, he having been fourteen years on the field, and a Mr. McCord who had given seven years of service among the Telegus in India. They were all rejoicing to on their way back to their work. There were also three new missionaries on their way to Corea with their brides. Miss Scidmore, whose letters you have read in the Tribune, was on board. She has lived many years in Japan and

A Blind Shampooer.

China. Through her I learned some Japanese sentences. One she thought, I would often use was "Skushi mattie kurimia," "wait a minute ricksha man," and it was not long before I had to put it in use.

In the evening we went on deck and had a song service, one hymn being "Pull for the Shore, Sailor."

Seven days out! What a waste of waters! I remembered my geography used to read that there is three times as much water as land, and now I realized it. Still another seven days to sail on. How wonderful, how boundless, but "He holds it in the hollow of his hands." I never shall forget the joy I felt as I gazed out of my port hole just at day light, and saw land. I wept for very joy, and could hardly refrain from shouting "Land ahead," but all was still on board, and they slept until we dropped anchor in Yeddo Bay. My strongest feeling was that of joyful thankfulness to be on land once more.

We were soon speeding along the Bund in jinrikshas. How novel, how strange to be drawn by a human horse. The Grand Hotel is beautifully situated overlooking the harbor. Back of the hotel we were never tired of watching the boats called sampans, with their square sails, or the steamers of different countries as they entered the harbor while the cannon boomed a welcome, answered by the Japanese..

We found our guide waiting for us, and felt at home at once, finding letters of welcome from Mrs. Fisher and Miss Duffield.

Our good guide Katsu said, you are fortunate in arriving today as it is a national holiday and the streets are full of people in their bright kimonos with flowers in their hair.

Seven of us started out together. Everything was novel and interesting. We went through the narrow old streets Benton Dora, and Hunka Dora, past all sorts of shops most of them only one story high with fronts all open to the street, and not much larger than a closet. As there are no sidewalks we were right among the people. We found a bow and a smile brought an answering smile as they came around us, and we felt interested in them at once.

Many were going to the parks where the temples are, and we followed on. In one temple a priest who was dressed in a handsome brocade robe and tall hat, was waving a fan to drive away the evil spirts, while the people clapped their hands to call the attention of the gods, and threw down their offerings, and knelt in prayer.

The priests are supposed to be very humble, and to dress in rags and patches. This is the way they do it: these robes are called togas, they cut the brocade in pieces, and sew it together, and put the patches on to take away the curse. We met a procession carrying an idol on a decorated cart while they beat the tom-tom. The natives pulled with a long rope, while they sang or prayed. They wore very little clothing and carried fans and sunshades.

There are many blind people in Japan who earn their living by giving massage, wandering freely in the streets blowing their whistles, everyone making way for them. Custom limits the profession to the blind who thus support their families.

One of the characteristic traits of the Japanese is politeness. No matter how often we stopped, they waited until I was seated in the jinriksha and lead the way, I being the oldest in the company. They have no sense of the value of time, and it is useless to hurry them. At the shops many embroidered articles were for sale

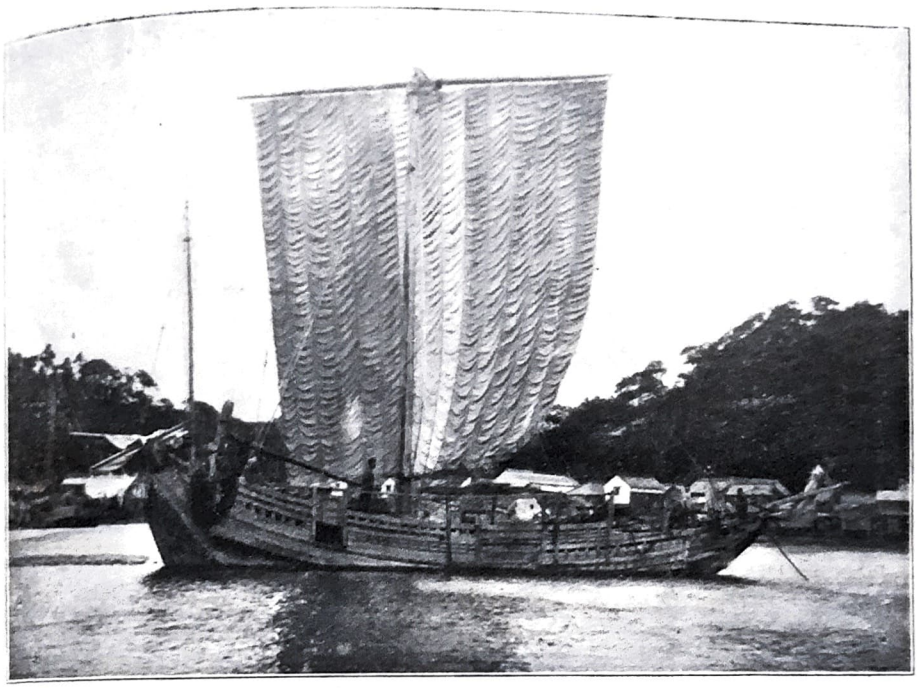
after the sailing of the vessels, said not to have been finished in time for those who had ordered them. I ordered articles on the first day I arrived, and they were not brought to me until the last trunk was being locked. Kipling says:

"It is not good for the Christians health
to hustle the Aryan brown,
For the Christian riles, and the Aryan
smiles, and he weareth the Christian
down.
And the end of the fight is a tombstone
white, with the name of the late de-
ceased
And the epitaph drear, " A fool lies here
who tried to hustle the east."

The homes of the Japanese are very uncomfortable to foreigners; nothing to sit on, nothing but a brazier to warm one's self by, with great danger of fires. No privacy; the clatter twice a day of the opening and shutting of the outer wooden slides, and draughts pouring in innumerable chinks. Darkness everywhere, when heavy rains make it necessary to shut up one or more sides of the house. The houses are cheap, a great thing in a poor country. The Japanese who live in them do not share our ideas in regard to comfort and discomfort. They do not miss fireplaces or stoves, never having such arrangement for heating. They do not mind draughts having been used to them from infancy.

What sad work the cruel war has made with the happy people of the little empire! Thousands of fathers and sons have sacrificed their lives for the love of emperor and country. It is said, "When a father of a Japanese family begins a journey the raised part of the room is made sacred to his memory, during his absence. His family will gather in front of it and think of him, expressing their love and devotion in words and gifts. In the hundreds and thousands of families who have some of their members fighting for their nation in this war with Russia, there will not be even one house where the mother, wife or sister is not practeing the simple rite of endearment for the beloved and absent member of the family."

But the banner of peace again floats over the world, made possible by the untiring efforts of our honored president. We as a nation can only express our gratitude for his great efforts in ending the hostilities. The following poem still expresses the condition of the country at the present time:



Sampan—A Japanese Boat.

In Old Japan.

By W. A. Phelon.

In old Japan—
Triumphant cries ring down the street—
No voice of slaughterous defeat,
For only word of victory comes,
Mixed with the roll of far-off drums,
To old Japan!

In old Japan—
The song of glory, and of pride
In the great deeds of those who died—
Thoughts of high honor light each face—
The tokens of a warrior race
Of old Japan!

In old Japan—
No trace of grief in lip or eye—
No gloomy brow, no heart-wrecked sigh—
"My son is dead! Shout loud his name!
Banzai! He died the death of fame!
For old Japan!"

In old Japan—
No group tonight of joyous men
Laugh with the geisha's samisen—
But feebly on the sanded shore
Walk bandaged heroes by the score—
In old Japan.

In old Japan—
The teahouse with its lacquered walls
Stands empty now, or vainly calls—
And those who sat there in the past
Now gather at the bugle's blast—
For old Japan!

In old Japan—
Far stretch the rows of new-turned graves
Of those who died in trench or waves—
While myriad voices chant their praise
Throughout the golden summer days,
In old Japan.

Missionaries under appointment. In the lower righthand corner is the Rev. Dr. Walter Rittenhouse and wife. Dr. Rittenhouse was examined by a council called by our church. The ordination took place September 6th.

The Pastor's Message.

Dear Friends: I am sure that in years to come we shall always hold our week of prayer in autumn rather than mid-winter. Though we undertook the new plan this year for the first time and people were unaccustomed to it, the result has certainly abundantly justified the change. Even on Monday the first night of the meetings, the prayer meeting room was filled to listen to the noble and inspiring sermon of Dr. Burlingame. Monday is usually an off night when a series of meetings is being held, so the number present was all the more remarkable. Tuesday evening saw a slightly larger congregation, and on Wednesday two or three additional rows of chairs were brought in and occupied, the room being filled with a most attentive congregation. Deacon Ahrens' beautiful address on Thursday evening on "Religion and the Home," was greatly appreciated and the meeting was one of power throughout. Even on Friday, the last night of the meetings, the interest was intense, and 250 people were present.

Through the medium of these gatherings the spirit of fellowship and of true consecration has developed in our midst. This is a token of good, and a promise of blessing for the coming months. If we follow now the leading of the Holy Spirit, and seek to interpret His will concerning us, what rich and manifold favors he will bestow upon us, in the strengthening of our

faith, the enlarging of our spiritual vision, and the ingathering of precious souls.

The mens' League has been under efficient leadership year by year. The traditions in this respect will be maintained. The officers recently elected constitute a body of most faithful workers. We all know how vigorously and wisely Mr. Marshall the new president will direct the plans and efforts of the organization. Special emphasis will be put upon the meetings of the League for Bible study each Sunday at 12:15. Mr. Marshall will preside each week and the class will be taught by the pastor. Mr. Williams is chairman of the social committee and we know what that means.

Altogether the prospects for the League are very hopeful.

I hope to have a goodly number of young people in the Christian Culture course on Friday evening. We will meet for half an hour before the Endeavor society begins. We will follow the course of study outlined by Dr. Kirtley in his "Twenty six days in the Life of Christ." If any older people would care to enter the class we would be very glad to welcome them.

We had 360 people at our last communion in spite of the heavy rain which fell in the morning and the threatening skies at the time of church service. The Ladies' Benevolent society held its first meeting last Friday with an attendance of I think 85. Many plans were outlined for a year of victorious effort. The intermediate department and the Bible classes show evidence of steadiness and strength. The Primary department needs attention, but all will rejoice in the decision of Mrs. Lumley to accept the superintendency there. The junior Primary is prospering finely. Let us thank God with full hearts for the grand beginning of this new year of work and cease not to pray for His blessing.

Your pastor,

AUSTIN KENNEDY de BLOIS.

The Church at Work.

Sunday School.

Our school is taking on new life and enthusiasm and if all will turn in and help in earnest we can have one of the best and largest schools in Chicago. It would be hard to find better officers and teachers anywhere than we have. It is an honor to be a teacher in the First Baptist Sunday School. Our officers are laying plans which will surely result in the betterment of our school in the future.

It is good to see Mrs. Williams again in her place in the welcome department of our school. Her greeting puts us all in tune for the services of the day.

Rally Day.

The feature of Rally Day was the address by our superintendent who had just returned from Boston. Let us heed his call to "Rally round the banner of the cross" in our work this year and make it the best season our school ever knew.

Mr. Leland told us how the school helps the scholar. Mr. Rhenisch set forth the many ways in which the scholars may help the school. Miss Elizabeth Pickett spoke of the benefits the teacher receives and Miss Van Fleet closed the talks with an enthusiastic presentation of the teacher's function. Her role call of classes revealed the work that had been done and the places where much work needs to be done. The whole church would do well to join our boys and girls in following the earnest advice of our pastor to be loyal to Christ this year in everything.

Rally Day has past, but every Sunday should be another and a better Rally than the last.

CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR SOCIETY.

Elizabeth M. Pickett.

Owing to absence from the city the Christian Endeavor notes were missing in the September issue.

The Christian Endeavor Society has not been inactive however. Not only is the Society continuing its usual work, but it is increasing the interest to a strong di-

sure for efficiency in Christian work.

Much credit is due our prayer meeting committee for making the meetings more helpful by a deeper spirit of devotion and consecration. A conference of the executive committee of the Society was held recently. The earnestness of spirit, and willingness to be of service in the work of the Master, that were shown augurs well for the largeness of our work this year. So promising a beginning in our fall work is worthy a successful accomplishment of the ideal set for us this year, the salvation of souls through our Christian Endeavor work. This will require the co-operation of all our members in faithful attendance, and devotion to that part of our covenant which reads "to pray and read the Bible every day." A keen appreciation of our daily blessings should find expression in a thankful spirit of confession and praise once a week at least, and will make the pledge to participate in the prayer meeting a joy and pleasure.

At the invitation of our president, Mr. Geo. C. Arthur, we had the pleasure of listening to Mr. Lyman of the Baptist Young People's Union of America, on Friday evening, September 8th. Mr. Lyman has been for many years deeply and actively interested in the Christian Culture Courses given by this organization, and he gave us a very clear description of the work our Baptist Young People all over the country are accomplishing.

The Fall Rally.

Friday evening, September 29th, we held a special fall rally service. On this occasion we had the pleasure of listening to a few suggestions on Lookout Committee work from Mr. Waterfield of the Second Presbyterian Church and for sometime chairman of the Lookout Committee work of the South Division Christian Endeavor Union. We were glad to welcome back to its place, to stay in our procession, the Increase Membership banner which we won last year in the campaign for larger membership among the societies of the South Division Union. Mr. Van Meter who has been doing special evangelistic work with Christian Endeavorers of the city for two or three years gave us a short talk about this work. Its necessity as a part of Christian Endeavor work, and its joys and blessings were brought clearly before us. He presented to us for our individual consideration a pledge to do this work for the Master, and we are glad to know that there are some among us who are willing to sign such a pledge. Our pastor, whose frequent presence at our meetings we count one of our great inspirations, closed the service with some stirring words of appeal for deeper consecration and more enthusiastic co-operation with him this season, for the salvation of souls. After thoughtful and prayerful consideration of the matter the following pledge has been prepared for those who are willing to devote themselves to this work for this winter:

By God's help I hereby promise prayerfully,

To co-operate with my pastor in every evangelistic effort that he may make, as far as I may be able.

To invite my unconverted friends and acquaintances to our services and welcome them when they come.

To attend the regular preaching services and after-meetings of our church unless absolutely prevented, until May 31st, 1906.

To invite at least one stranger or visitor to remain to each after-meeting and to take part in these meetings if there is an opportunity.

To endeavor to win at least one person to the Saviour this month.

A Reversible Social.

The Society enjoyed its first social gathering of the season Thursday evening, September 28th. There were many strangers present, and therein the first success of the evening was scored.

A unique program began with the reversing of the usual order of things and refreshments were served immediately upon the arrival of the company. The following will give some idea of the entertainment of the evening, which was voted a success by the large number who attended.

Emmargorp.

Stnemhserfer.

Laicos Lareneg.

Olos Tenroc.

Sbrevorp.

Olos Niloiv.

Semag.

Ua Riover.

Church Life

Published Monthly by the

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

Chicago, Illinois

Editor

WESLEY M. EMBREE.

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Miss E. M. Pickett

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AFTER THE WEEK OF PRAYER.

The weeks of work must follow the week of waiting upon God. He has answered our united prayer for a revival of religion in our midst. Now we are better prepared to bring Christ to those who have not come to Him. "—such as I have give I thee, in the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, Rise up and walk," Peter could not have said this before Pentecost. But now he is filled with the spirit. Christ was living in him. Everyone who knows the Master can help someone else to know Him whom to know aright is life eternal. The field is white to the harvest. Will you be one of the reapers?

LADIES' BENEVOLENT SOCIETY.

The regular meeting of the Ladies' Benevolent Society will be held in the church parlors on Friday, October 20th, from ten till four. Luncheon will be served. All the ladies of the church and congregation are cordially invited.

AMONG THE MEMBERS.

Mr. and Mrs. Hessler have united with the Mallard Ave. Church.

Mr. and Mrs. Hellis have taken their letters to the Austin Church. Our loss is Austin's gain.

Items of interest should be dropped in Mr. Embree's mail box on the door of our prayer meeting room.

Mr. Russel C. King and Miss Elizabeth Hughes were united in mariage October 11th, at their new home, 5653 Sangamon. Mr. Embree conducted the ceremony. This will be another of our strong Christtian homes. No one has been more loyal to our work than Mr. and Mrs. King. We congratulate them and rejoice that the united influence of their lives will continue to be a blessing to our work.

Do not fail to read the pastor's message.

Our Sunday School is to be congratulated upon the coming of Mrs. Dr. Lumsley to superintend our primary department. With Mrs. Thomas and Mrs. Lumley as leaders our children could not be in better hands.

Offerings for the work at Raymond should be handed to Mr. Bowman Lingle or placed in the collection basket properly marked.

Rev. C. H. Day, D. D., who visited our pastor a year ago last summer and preached very acceptably for the church, has recently resigned his charge at Kentville, N. C., to assume the pastorate of a large church in Watertown, Mass. He is to enter his new field Nov. 1st.

No citizen of the city of Chicago can afford to miss the lecture on the 19th on "Old Chicago." Mr. D. B. Smith gives this lecture under the auspices of the Ladies' Benevolent Society.

We were glad to have Mrs. Chick of Hessville, Ind., with us at the October communion service.

The University opened October 2nd, with the largest number of students in its history. The First Church is represented by ten or twelve of our young people.

The Men's League is to be congratulated upon the election of Mr. Marshall as president.

Miss Little has been spending several weeks in the southern part of the state.

Dr. Henderson has returned from his European trip and takes up his work at the University.

Mrs. R. R. Donnelley is expected home during this month.

The Missionary group is used by courtesy of the Standard.

Mrs. Carrol, the mother of three of our Sunday School pupils is recovering her strength after a severe attack of appendicitis.

Miss Carrie Rogers is spending several months with her people in Minnesota. We hope to have her with us again by Christmas time.

Mrs. Russell spent a few days with the family of our former Deacon Lindley of South Haven. They send regards to all their friends.

The Ladies' Aid of Raymond will hold a rummage sale the first week in November. Bring things to the church or we will send for them.

Mr. and Mrs. Geo. C. Arthur are the proud possessors of a new baby girl. May the little one be blessed with a happy life and long be a blessing to her parents and others.

Mr. and Mrs. Calder B. Lawton, who brought letters to our church from Macon, Ga., last spring, have again returned to the sunny south. We are sorry to lose them, just as they were beginning to feel at home with us.

We regret to learn of the severe illness of Miss Marie Kilbourne, formerly one of our faithful Sunday School teachers, during the past month. At this writing she is much better and was able to be with us on Sunday evening. We hope the improvement may be permanent.

Mrs. Hamblin, one our Sunday School teachers who has passed through a long hospital experience, is again able to be with her class and was heartily welcomed to her old place, not only by her own class of boys but by officers and other teachers who have missed her much during her absence.

A letter from Mrs. Blackman reports that she is having a delightful time of rest and recuperation with her sister in Emporia, Kansas, and that she is gaining strength slowly, though she is yet far from strong. She sends love to inquiring friends and says that no spot on earth is so dear to her as the First Baptist church of Chicago.

We are glad to welcome to our congregation Miss Perry of Buffalo, Miss Ayers of Springfield, Ill., Miss Morrison, Miss Rundquist, Miss Alderson, Miss Ballard and Miss Williams, seven good Baptist young women whom we hope will become members of our church.

REPORT OF CHURCH VISITOR FOR SEPTEMBER

Calls received	8
Calls made	156
Letters written	50
Postals written	14
Services attended	32
Committee meetings	4
Bible lessons given	8
Garments given away	20

MISSION STUDY CLASS.

Six Lessons on "Christus Liberator"
By Mrs. Helen Barrett Montgomery
Of Rochester, N. Y.
Northwestern University Building
Assembly Hall, Second Floor
87 Lake Street
October 21, 23 and 24, 1905
Morning Sessions, 10:30 a. m.
Afternoon Sessions, 1:30 p. m.

Mrs. Montgomery is a speaker of great ability and fascination. She has given months of study to these lessons; was the teacher at the Summer School of the Central West, at Winona Lake; and also at the Northfield Summer School. Every Missionary Society, every Christian Endeavor and Young People's Society should send one or more of its members to this training class for the winter's study on Africa.

Course tickets, one dollar. Tickets may be obtained from all headquarters of Women's Mission Boards.

RAYMOND NOTES.

We are grieved to know that our former pastor, Mr. Dow is quite unwell. He was overcome by the heat last summer and has not fully recovered yet. We trust that God may soon give him strength to resume the evangelistic work in which he has been so greatly blessed.

Miss Mabel Mason recently underwent a severe and perilous operation made necessary by a trouble of the inner ear. Many prayers of thanksgiving have ascended to the Father on her behalf because of the successful outcome of the operation and

the prospect of a speedy recovery.

We are sorry to lose Mr. and Mrs. Saker from our membership. The family has removed to 3839 Campbell avenue, in the neighborhood formerly known as Brighton.

Notwithstanding numerous announcements at our meetings and several pleas in this paper there are quite a number of subscriptions toward the new Chapel that are still unpaid. These promises to pay were made nearly a year and a half ago and it would seem there had surely been time and to spare for all to redeem their pledge. Especially ought our brethren and sisters at Raymond be diligent about this in view of our unanimous wish to have the building hurried to completion. The pledges are good but it requires money to pay the contractors. Will not those delinquent take the matter seriously to heart and make sacrifices if necessary in order to clear up these old obligations and help the building forward.

Our Bible School omitted the customary Rally Day services and has voted to celebrate our first Sunday in the new Chapel with a grand Rally Day service. A committee has been appointed to prepare a program.

We congratulate Mr. and Mrs. Rader upon the arrival of a son, Julius Ralph Rader.

Miss Miller's young men have formed an organization of which Mr. Schwick is president; Mr. King, treasurer; Mr. Hall, secretary. We will expect to hear from this class in the near future.

October 30.—Make no other engagements on this date until you know what our C. E. Society is going to do.

Calvin Rader and Pharis Minnich are doing effective work in the library.

Miss Lackner has begun the fall work with the Girl's Guild. They met at Miss Olsen's October 12. All girls are invited.

A very enjoyable reception was given September 27th, by Mr. and Mrs. Freligh in honor of their son and his bride.

The Journal of the Church.

H. F. Perkins, Church Clerk.

September 1, Friday. Christian Endeavor prayer meeting led by Miss Margaret Graham. Topic: "The Abundant Life; how get it? how use it? John 10: 7-10; Rom. 5:19-21.

September 3, Sunday. Sermons by the Pastor. Morning theme, "A Conquering Church," evening: "A Message for the Heart."

September 4, Monday. Open air service addressed by Ass't Pastor Embree.

September 6, Wednesday. Ordination service of Dr. Walter Rittenhouse.

September 8, Friday. Meeting of the Woman's Mission Circle. Christian Endeavor prayer service led by Miss Sylvia Bucklin. Topic: "What is Practical Christianity?" Jas. 2:14-26.

September 10, Sunday. In the morning the Pastor preached on "God's Will in our Lives," and in the evening on the theme, "In His Name."

September 11, Monday. Open air service led by Ass't Pastor Embree. Monthly dinner and meeting of the Board of Deacons. Business and social meeting of the Lorimer class.

September 13, Wednesday. Church prayer and social service. Topic: "Our Littleness and Greatness." Psalm 8.

September 15, Friday. Christian Endeavor prayer meeting led by Miss Van Fleet. Theme, "The Great Surrender." Acts 9:1-22; Rom. 6:16-23.

September 17, Sunday. Sermons by the Pastor. Morning theme, "The Brotherhood of the Sons of God," evening, "A Rude Awakening."

September 18, Monday. Open air service led by Mr. H. H. Van Meter. Social meeting of the Lorimer class.

September 20, Wednesday. Church prayer and social service. Theme, "What Influences Led Me to Christ." John 1:35-51.

September 22, Friday. Fall rally of the Christian Endeavor Society. Short addresses were given by Mr. J. S. Waterfield on Lookout Work, by Mr. H. H. Van Meter on Evangelistic Work, and by the Pastor on "Our Work."

September 24, Sunday. In the morning the Pastor preached on the theme, "Urged by a Vision," and in the evening on "The Unseen Sin."

September 25, Monday. Annual meeting and election of the Amoret Henson Guild.

Farewell service in honor of the outgoing missionaries of the American Baptist Missionary Union.

September 27, Wednesday. Monthly covenant meeting. Theme, "Living for Christ." Matt. 8:18-22.

September 28, Thursday. A Reversible Social was given by the Christian Endeavor Society.

September 29, Friday. Christian Endeavor monthly missionary meeting led by Miss Frances Huskey.

CHANGES IN MEMBERSHIP.

Additions.

By Baptism—

Mrs. Geo. M. Adams, 4620 St. Lawrence Ave.

By Letter—

George M. Adams, 4620 St. Lawrence Ave.

Mrs. Henry E. Brown, 4714 St. Lawrence Ave.

Diminutions.

By Letter—

Mr. Oscar R. O'Farel.
Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Hessler.
Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Hellis.
Mr. and Mrs. H. P. Austin.
Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Bastable.
Mrs. F. H. Stephens.

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